

3-20-1980

## Letters, David R. Bowen from B. F. Smith, Executive Vice President of the Delta Council, 1979 and 1980

B. F. Smith

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# DELTA Council

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE YAZOO-MISSISSIPPI DELTA

PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY OF ITS AREA

TELEPHONE: LELAND, MISS., 686-4041

STONEVILLE, MISSISSIPPI 38776

March 20, 1980

MAR 25 1980

Honorable David R. Bowen, M.C.  
Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear David:

We are greatly concerned to learn that the Administration decided to terminate the PL 480 Title I Program in Indonesia for 1981. The principal reason given is that Indonesia obtained "windfall profits" from the sale of oil and is no longer in the need of this assistance.

We believe that this is a very shortsighted policy. Not only has the PL 480 program been one of our major agricultural marketing tools, it has also provided a major contribution toward making and keeping friends for this country in developing nations. Indonesia is an underdeveloped area that has maintained very friendly relationships with the United States. It has also continued to supply a part of our petroleum needs and the PL 480 assistance that we provide is a cheap price to pay for continued good relations. Also, Indonesia is strongly anti-Communist and the quickest way we can contribute to the expansion of Communist influence there is to help create a situation where food is scarce or food prices are high.

Of course, we are deeply concerned also because Indonesia is one of our major rice markets, as was Iran. With the loss of the Iran market, we simply cannot afford to jeopardize the loss of another major export market. As you know, Korea and Taiwan have become two of our major commercial customers as the direct result of products supplied to them originally under the Food for Peace Program.

We certainly hope that something can be done to reverse this decision.

With best personal regards,

Yours very truly,

*B.F.*  
B. F. Smith  
Executive Vice President

BFS/dl

# DELTA Council

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE YAZOO-MISSISSIPPI DELTA

PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY OF ITS AREA

TELEPHONE: LELAND, MISS., 686-4041

STONEVILLE, MISSISSIPPI 38776

December 6, 1979

*called BF*

Honorable David R. Bowen, M.C.  
Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

DEC 11 1979

Dear David:

We understand that there is a move under way within the Administration to reduce rather drastically our commitment to assist Indonesia through the Food for Peace Program. This would mean, of course, a reduction in the amount of rice that we allow them to buy each year through this program.

As you know, Indonesia has been receiving about one-half the amount of rice that we ship abroad each year under the Food for Peace Program. With a large crop this year and the loss of our Iranian markets, we certainly need to do everything possible to offset these losses.

Also, Japan has surplus stocks of rice and is subsidizing the export of this rice very heavily. If we reduce the amount of rice that we provide to Indonesia, Japan is sure to move even greater tonnages of her surplus stocks into that country. This could mean a long-range, as well as a short-range, loss.

As you know, Indonesia not only obtains U.S. rice through the Food for Peace Program but they also have bought U.S. rice on commercial terms from U.S. exporters.

We sincerely hope that you will do everything that you can with The White House, including OMB, to prevent the reduction of assistance to Indonesia through the Food for Peace Program. This will not only benefit Indonesia but will also directly benefit U.S. rice producers.

With best personal regards,

Yours very truly,

*BF*  
B. F. Smith

Executive Vice President

BFS/dl

DAVID R. BOWEN  
2ND DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

*follow up to call  
phone  
Ap 3.*

April 3, 1980

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. B.F. Smith

FROM: Gay Frederick

This is the language which will appear in the Report of the International Security and Development Assistance Bill. David Bowen raised the issue during the mark up of the bill in the Foreign Affairs Committee and obtained the consensus of the Committee members that a P.L. 480 Title I program should be continued for Indonesia. What Mr. Bowen is proposing would restore nearly all of the rice program for Indonesia.

I am also enclosing talking points supporting a P.L. 480 program for Indonesia.

*sent cc of Report language  
4-29-80*

INDONESIAN RICE:

B.F. SMITH